GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2357
ANSWERED ON:06.08.2003
TREATMENT/REHABILITATION OF MENTAL PATIENTS
DALPAT SINGH PARASTE

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have conducted any survey of mental health status of the people in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government for the treatment and rehabilitation of mental patients?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a)&(b): Epidemiological studies have revealed that 1 to 2% of the population has major mental disorders and 5 to 10% suffer from minor mental disorders.

(c): Treatment for mental disorders is given through the existing mental hospitals, Psychiatric department attached to Medical Colleges and District General Hospitals.The District Mental Health Programme is implemented with the aim to identify persons suffering from various mental disorders and manage them at the primary health care center and district level by trained doctors, with the active support of the families and the community in which the patient lives. The programme is presently being implemented in 27 districts covering 22 States and Union Territories. During the Tenth Five Year Plan, it is envisaged to expand the District Mental Health programme to more districts, upgrade the facilities in the mental hospitals/medical colleges and increase awareness amongst, the people. The Government through the ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment have been undertaking various schemes for rehabilitation of persons suffering from disabilities, including mentally ill patients.